

Gc
977.802
Sw36
1987388

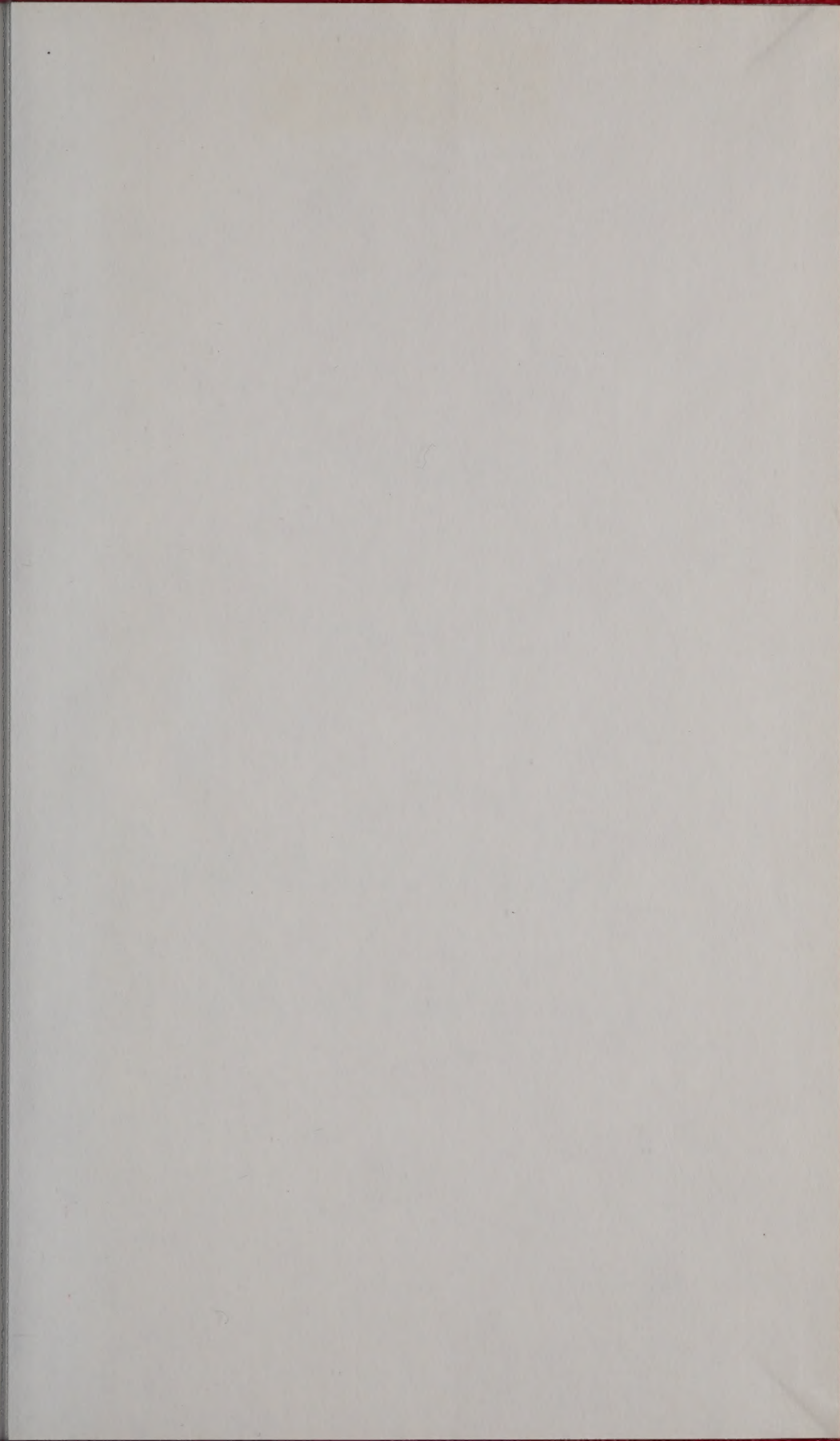
M. L.

REYNOLDS HISTORICAL
GENEALOGY COLLECTION

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



3 1833 01094 9870





Vignettes

Of

Sweet Springs,

Missouri mo.



Preface

The historical sketches contained in this booklet were assembled as a memento of the annual picnic and meeting of the Saline County Historical Society which was held at Memorial park in Sweet Springs Sunday, June 23, 1957, with H. H. Harris, Jr., retiring president and Charles Pelot, vice-president from Salt Pond Township.

The articles and pictures herein pertain to the history and development of the community of Sweet Springs, formerly Brownsville. The articles do not aim at a chronological account, but are rather excerpts, taken from here and there, many with the picturesque language of an earlier era.

1987388

We are deeply indebted to those who contributed pictures and material for the booklet.

Much of the material was taken from old issues of The Sweet Springs Herald and from a history of Saline County of 1881.

This booklet is dedicated to the memory of those early inhabitants who were responsible for the development and progress of the area, and is also dedicated to our future citizens who will continue this progress, ever mindful, we hope, of those qualities which make a community great—love of God and a determination for a rule of freedom and justice.

Frank and Hazel Farmer, Owners and Publishers of The
Sweet Springs Herald, 1948 —

#7.50 Smokey Hill
Bookkeeper
Feb 14-1988 8752

1875.

Sweet Springs

By J. M. Pelot, M. D.

And often my heart is lonely,
For my darlings no longer
here,
But be sure that the loving
Master
Will choose for us both the
best—
The length of the day for labor,
And the hour for evening rest.”
So she waits in the snuggest
corner,
Away from the sharpest cold;
She is ever content and patient,
She is dearer to us than gold;
But though we shall weep to miss
her,
Whenever she goes away,
We shall say, when the Master
calls her
She is happy indeed that day.

SWEET SPRINGS.

The approach of the “heated term” not only brings visions of birds and flowers, palm-leaf fans and iced beverages, but to numbers of our overworked citizens and feeble women, it suggests serious plans for providing means of recuperation.

It is a popular notion, perhaps correct, that our forefathers were constrained by no such necessity—that the vigor of their constitutions, the simplicity of their habits and the hygienic advantages of their dwellings maintained them in health, so far as health could be affected by climatic vicissitudes.

But “times change and men” do not “change with them.” If our slowgoing grandfathers had been suddenly plunged into such a vortex of financial excitement, steam, telegraphs, press and pulpit sensationalism as surrounds us, it is very questionable if all their steady nerves and simple lives would have saved them from the consequences that their more knowing descendants suffer. Man is endowed with a won-

derful power of adapting himself to new surroundings, and instances are numerous of such adaptations, rapid and radical, in individuals and races, assuring the success of daring experiments and adventures otherwise beyond the range of possibility. But the rapid growth of the physical sciences in the last quarter of a century has led to a development of new environments more rapid than the respondent changes in the constitution of the race. What this kind of progress is leading to in the ultimate is no part of our inquiry; but what it has resulted in is patent to all who take the trouble to look around them. The organism of men, women and children inhibiting poison by every avenue, enduring shocks through all the senses, worked up to its highest capacity like a high-pressure engine, and like it, never stopping but for repairs, sooner or later gives way in some essential part, and death, insanity or decrepitude ends the drama.

Experience teaches us that nothing contributes so much to the re-invigoration of the system as country air, exercise and diet, with all the concomitants incident to a country life. With what confidence does the physician prescribe, and with what alacrity the patient obeys, “six weeks in the country,” or “a trip to the Springs,” or “the mountains.”

Hitherto, such prescriptions generally pointed to Saratoga, the sea-side, or the Northwest. To the average Missourian, those resorts do not afford satisfaction. The crowds of fashionable people, uncongenial, blaze, mercenary; the everlasting hotel life, with its ever-present shams; the rush and whirl, the noise and confusion; the wasteful extravagance and empty, trivial pleas-

ures, all combine to make up such an absurd travesty of the "summer resort" that the patient feels that he has but exchanged one unwholesome city life for another more unwholesome. There is a class, of course, that will always gravitate naturally to such places; but the quiet, unworldly folk, who leave town for real recuperation of mind and body, generally look around for a resort that answers to their ideal of what such a resort should be.

The requisites to be obtained are a salubrious, pleasant climate; real country environments, with grass under foot, trees over head, country fare on the table, and large expanse of field and forest; waters that are as pleasant to the palate as they are being in their effects; such accommodations as conduce rather to a quiet sociability than to ostentatious display; the certainty of meeting acquaintances, confreres, clients, and representative men from all parts of one's State; nearness to home, with easy and rapid railroad facilities; and absence of mud, mosquitoes, malaria, coal smoke, dust, extortion, vicious taunts and shams.

There are in the State several localities that offer a future promise of value as summer resorts, but as all, with the exception of a group of springs in Saline County, are totally undeveloped, or distant from lines of travel, it is useless to mention them.

The Lexington branch of the Missouri Pacific Railroad, pierces a region of country in Saline County abounding in mineral springs of great variety and well-attested power. At the McAllister Springs, five miles east of Brownsville, are some half dozen—one a mild saline, one a powerful salt-sulphur, much used in the treatment of skin diseases

and other affections requiring a bath, and one remarkably active aperient of black sulphur.

From one to two miles west of Brownsville are dozens of all varieties of sulphur springs—white, black, salt, chalybeate and what not. In many localities in this region are chalybeate springs and wells, none of which, however, have ever been used medicinally to any extent. The White Sulphur, a mile northwest of Brownsville, has been resorted to for years by the citizens of adjoining counties, who have been in the habit of camping on the grounds and luxuriating *al-fusco*.

But the most popular spring of the group is the Sweet Spring, a fourth of a mile south of the corporate limits of Brownsville, and about three fourths of a mile from the railroad depot. This locality has attracted so much attention in the last twelve months, and is eliciting so many inquiries that it is deemed proper to give a brief historical sketch and a resume of the curative properties of this now famous spring.

The country surrounding the Sweet Spring was to a certain extent colonized at a very early period in the history of Central Missouri. A very short time after the immigration of Daniel Boone and his companions to Howard and Cooper, two or three families of Kentuckians, the Prigmores and Reavises, attracted doubtless by the salt springs and licks, built their cabins two or three miles below the present town of Brownsville, on both sides of the Black Water. This was as far back as 1817, and the increase of population must have been exceedingly slow, as in 1835 there were not over twelve families within ten miles of the place.

It is not to be supposed that this community of hunters and trappers would long remain ig-

norant of the boldest and coolest fountain in all the country, nor that it could long be known without acquiring the appropriate title of "Sweet Springs." These dates are involved in obscurity.

No suspicion of its wonderful medicinal virtues seems to have been entertained by any one until it was accidentally exhibited in a most remarkable manner.

In the spring of the year 1841 the young wife of the Rev. J. Lapsley Yantis came up from her home in Howard County to her father's (James Montgomery, Esq.), five miles north of Brownsville. She had been an invalid for years, had but recently arisen from a long and wasting attack of fever, and was now pronounced by her physician in the third stage of pulmonary consumption, with one lobe of the left lung destroyed. In this apparently hopeless condition she came to her people to die among them.

At that time Brownsville was a little straggling hamlet of some three or four families, with the usual store and blacksmith-shop; and Dr. Ostrander, Mrs. Yantis' brother-in-law, was a citizen of the place. At his house she spent some weeks, rambling about the country in a listless sort of way on her gentle pony. One day, following a bridle-path through the hazel-brush, she came upon this secluded spring, gushing from a pebble-lined basin, and pouring down a south-looking slope into the dark stream of the Blackwater. She was so delighted with this quiet spot that it became her daily resort, where, reclining under the shade of the lofty trees, tossing the white and red pebbles, listening to the songs of the birds, and watching the sports of her little boy, she spent whole days in a dreamy, careless, hopeless existence.

In three days she discovered, to her great surprise, that she had a good appetite, to which she

had for years been a stranger, and day by day felt the joy of returning health. Her cough disappeared, perfect digestion dismissed the ever-present stomach from her mind, hypochondria gave place to boyant spirits, the rose returned to her cheeks, and her health was perfectly and absolutely restored.

Dr. Yantis at once resolved to become the owner of this invaluable spring and to make his home here; but delaying the matter in view of pressing ministerial work, he was anticipated by a brother of Dr. Ostrander, who entered the land for his father at the usual government price. Ostrander immediately took possession of his land and "improved" it—erecting a log cabin close to the spring, excavating back into the bluff, walling in the spring with great squared stones, and—with an eye to the utile rather than the dulce—building over it a commodious milk house.

In 1843 Mrs. Yantis's health again failing, Dr. Yantis himself succumbing to nervous attacks, and a faithful and much valued servant impotent from a uterine disease, the Doctor fully resolved to purchase the Sweet Spring property, having in view the keeping of a school for young men. He effected the purchase at ten dollars per acre, at a time when thousands of acres of the best prairie in Saline County could be entered at twelve and a half cents per acre. He bought pine lumber, had it shipped up the Missouri River, hauled it from Lexington, and built the west row of cottages now standing, and a large house, since destroyed by fire.

His school was filled as soon as opened, and continued for several years largely patronized from a distance, being the only first-rate establishment of the kind in Central Missouri. It is worthy of

note that during the entire continuance of this school not a single boy was ever sick enough to take medicine, except one who entered school in feeble health, and incurred the penalty of ipecac for the pleasures of raw turnip.

It was not within the scope of Dr. Yantis' plans to maintain a watering place for invalids, notwithstanding the increasing appreciation of the water. But in spite of the inconveniences of a crowded establishment, many persons, despairing of other relief, importuned to be allowed to remain with him, and in every case they were promptly relieved. Year by year the number of visitors increased until it became necessary to enlarge the facilities for entertaining them and to discontinue gratuitous hospitality. The place was let to one and another finally coming under the control of the late Col. W. P. Walton, through whose admirable management it has sustained a splendid reputation for years. There has been absolutely no advertising; and so without any special effort to bring the Spring into public notice, the multiplying evidences of its virtues have made for it a name and a fame which rest upon the solid foundation of true merit.

In 1872 the completion of the Lexington and Sedalia Railroad brought Brownsville and the Sweet Spring into the busy world. The one sprung up into a thriving modern town, the other became a universal favorite of health and pleasure seekers.

There is a pleasing circumstance connected with these springs which one cannot but notice who becomes familiar with them—and that is, they have no enemies. In the turmoil of rival towns, conflicting interests of institutions and political strifes, it is a little wonderful to hear everybody unite to speak a

good word for the Sweet Springs. You cannot find an invalid who will admit that he has not been benefitted more or less by the use of the water, while the enthusiasm of those who have been cured of otherwise hopeless diseases is something sublime to contemplate. Old habitués who have experienced their power in years gone by still make the annual pilgrimage, if but to spend a few days or a week. One reason for this fond attachment, in addition to its real beneficial effects, is the pleasure of merely drinking the water—a pleasure which is over and above the mere quenching of thirst with a cool and sparkling draught—a sort of appetite for water. Happy would be the physician who could always present his potent remedies in a form so attractive!

It is not intended in this article to attempt an exhaustive or extended presentation of the varied applications of this water to disease; it will be sufficient for the general reader to simply point out the affections over which it exercises an undoubted control.

Pre-eminent in this category stand the diseases and derangements of that wonderful organ, the stomach. That humble, patient, silent chemist, grand purveyor for the general assembly of parts called man, most kind when least obtrusive, never present itself to our consciousness but to upbraid and torture and by its demoniac power becloud the senses and horrify the imagination—seat of the gourmand's soul—avenue through which our affections are easiest betrayed. How numerous its grievances! hurried eating, mental abstraction while eating, gourmandize, rich food, condiments, temper, moroseness, nervous excitement, bad air, sedentary habits, wine, tobacco, politics, practice at the bar, book-

keeping and preaching. How protean its manifestations when minded to apply the lash! heart burn, headache, sleeplessness, never-ceasing gnawing, gnawing, awake while we wake and ever present in our dreams—hypochondria, cynicism, palpitations, night-mare, abject wretchedness—the worm that never dies, the fire that is not quenched.

Dyspepsia is notably a disease of Nineteenth Century civilization. It is generally readily relieved by a few doses of common sense combined with self-denial. But many times it is exceedingly obstinate, and sometimes incurable. Mineral waters, especially the salines, are well understood to be most efficacious, and there are hundreds of persons in Missouri who can testify to the superior efficacy of the Sweet Spring.

One case is referred to merely because it affords a comparison with other waters. It is that of a gifted young jurist, who through devotion to his profession became a victim to that most intractable form of the disease denominated muco-nervous. He tried perseveringly, but in vain. the Hot Springs and Sulphur Springs in Arkansas, the Virginia White Sulphur, and the watering places of the East. Finally he was led to visit the Sweet Springs, of which he had no knowledge, and his cure was rapid and altogether wonderful.

The water has proved equally beneficial in diseases of the kidneys and bladder. Its action is prompt, gentle and very satisfactory to the patient.

It is not, of course, a direct tonic, but in an indirect manner seldom fails to improve the digestion, enrich the blood, increase the weight and invigorate the system generally. It is frequently prescribed by physicians in convalescence from wasting

diseases and in chlorosis and anemia.

It is a reliable auxiliary in chronic intermittants, jaundice, dropsy, diseases of the head and nervous system, summer complaint, and many diseases in which an alterative is needed.

But perhaps its most grateful beneficiaries are women. It is emphatically the woman's friend. How often is it the case that the most skillful physician finds his best efforts baffled by a total failure of the organism to respond to treatment, how persistently will one simulated disease arise upon the disappearance of another, and the real disease recur again and again. His one unvarying prescription is fresh air, exercise, cheerful company, wholesome food, and perchance mineral water. He says, "Go to the Springs," But where? To a huge caravan-sera, crowded with fast women and impudent rouses? To the nauseous Chalybeats and Sulphurs of the West, or the inert limestones of the mountains? Rather forego the benefits of a mineral water than to expose his delicate patient to such hazards, and select a retired country house. But at this pleasant resort the physician may hope to meet all his requirements, and in future the command will be "Go to the Sweet Springs."

The facilities for entertaining guests at the Springs have always been entirely inadequate to meet the eager demand, and it has become a pressing necessity to provide by a larger expenditure than one man can afford, the necessary buildings and adornments. In consequence a joint stock association has been formed under the title of the "Sweet Springs Company," having for its object the purchase and development of the property. The Company was organized in St. Louis in August, 1874, with

Judge J. J. Lindley as President, Col. J. J. Montgomery as Secretary, and Edwin Harrison, Web. W. Samuel, J. A. J. Aderton, James O. Broadhead, Levi L. Ashbrook, C. R. Garrison, F. C. Sharp, Thomas J. Montgomery, Jos. L. Stephens, Norman J. Colman, Edwin S. West and John Johnson as Directors. The capital stock limited to \$500,000 in shares of \$100 each, payable in quarterly installments when \$75,000 shall have been subscribed. The stock is being taken mostly by business men, who look upon it as a first-class investment. It includes among its most active supporters such men as Hon. James Rollins, Gov. Charles H. Hardin, ex-Gov. Silas Woodson, Capt. James B. Eads, Hon. Jno. S. Phelps, Hon. Francis M. Cockrell, Hon. T. T. Crittenden, Col. Wm. Nelson of Kansas City, Geo. W. Samuel of St. Joseph, Hon. Henry Wallace, Col. Jno. Reid, Ed. T. Winsor and Jno. Waddel of Lexington, Hon. Wm. H. Letcher and Hon. J. P. Strother of Marshall, Hon. Jno. F. Philips, Gen. Geo. R. Smith, A. D. Jaynes and Dr. A. Y. Hull of Sedalia, Gen. James Shields of Carrol and Gen. James Shields of St. Louis, Hon. Jno. B. Clark of Fayette, Judge Buckner of Mexico, Judge James K. Sheley of Independence, Wm. N. Benton, Geo. Baine, Lee R. Shryrock, W. C. Bragg, W. F. Boyle, Jas. L. D. Morrison, Esq., C. E. Slayback, Britton A. Hill, Esq., W. C. Kennett, C. R. Gregory, J. B. C. Lucas, Judge Geo. A. Maddill, Jno. L. Ferguson, Hon. Stilson Hutchins, C. O. Dutcher, A. W. Slayback, Esq., Hon. Erastus Wells and many others of the most prominent men in all parts of the State.

Two things are apparent in this list of names—the most remarkable perhaps ever exhibited upon the stock-books of any company in the State: First that

with such men to inaugurate the enterprise success is assured and fraud is out of the question; and, second, that it is the policy of the company to distribute its stock in all parts of the State, in order that their protege may be as widely known as it deserves, and that it will be an object of State pride. It is intimated that the Board will probably make the stock redeemable at the Springs in payment of board, which will have the effect of sustaining it at par. Those who are regarded as experts in such matters have made calculations, establishing the proposition that large dividends will be realized so soon as sufficient accommodations can be provided for all visitors.

The company, having among its members many who possess unusual good taste and knowledge of such places, will no doubt avail themselves of these advantages to improve their grounds in a very creditable manner. They have three hundred acres of high level land, mostly covered with virgin forest; they have many accessories for the bringing out of the picturesque, and they have a generous soil.

It is to be hoped that they will avoid the errors into which mere speculators have fallen, of crowding their grounds with huge staring brick buildings, but will rather seek to preserve and develop the sylvan beauties of the place. The whole of the ground should be beautified in the manner of a park, the building should be small, convenient, comfortable, pretty and arranged in an attractive manner among the lawns and trees. The idea to be ever kept uppermost is that it is in the fullest sense of the term a country resort. As there is no other spring like the Sweet Spring in the United States.

Taken From The Sweet Springs Herald
Issue Of September 10, 1953

To Improve Sweet Spring Site Is Park Board's No. 1 Project

Life-sustaining water plays an important role in the history of any town, but especially so in the picturesque past of Sweet Springs. The No. 1 project of the city park board this year is the reconditioning of the spring for which our city was named.

The past week the brush and weeds were bull-dozed from around the spring area. On Wednesday evening a couple of the

territory were familiar with the spring long before white man came here.

In 1848 Rev. John Lapsley Yantis (a Presbyterian minister who had been preaching in Saline county since 1836) bought 80 acres including the spring grounds. There in 1848, he established the first high school in the West.

The story told of the spring is



park board members were found working laboriously with shovel to move more of the mud from around the spring and channel water toward Blackwater river. fire department has given much effort toward the park improvement. Money and donated labor are the two chief hurdles to be surmounted in helping preserve the historic site, says Raymond Highley, chairman of the board. It is likely that Indians in the

that Dr. Yantis' wife rode her horse up to the spring one day and alighted to drink of its water. "My", she exclaimed, "This water tastes sweet". Ever after it has been known as Sweet Water spring to distinguish it from the sulphur spring and the salt water spring near here.

Our settlement was first called Claysville, then Brownsville; and because of petition June 15, 1887 by 165 citizens, an election was

held August 1, 1887 changing the name to Sweet Springs.

At one time the spring water and beverages from it were sold far and wide. The water also received wide-spread acclaim for its wonderful medicinal qualities. People came by droves from nearly everywhere to drink of it and be healed by its properties. Although in the light of modern medical knowledge it would not now be considered a cure-all, an analysis showed it to be unusually potent with numerous combinations of chemical elements.

Accounts of the early history of the commercialization of the spring water are rather sketchy, but the older citizens recall the importance of the water in the town's early history.

Leaflet Tells Of Quality

The Missouri Mineral Water Co. was instigated by the Sullivan brothers of Jefferson City about 1872.

Much information is given about the company later in an old advertisement folder which belongs to C. R. Urie. The picture of the bottling works which accompanies this item was made from the folder.

The folder announces Iola E. Harwood as new general manager and treasurer of the company; A. M. Hough, president; Dr. John H. Owens, vice-president; L. B. Harwood, secretary.

The folder states, "From personal knowledge we commend Sweet Springs, Saline County, Mo., with its varied waters, as a superior health resort; its waters possessing remarkable virtues". This paragraph was followed, as an endorsement, by the names of Joe C. S. Blackburn, Kentucky; Geo. B. Clark, M. C., Hatch, M. C., both of Missouri; M. L. Clardy, Ex. M. C., Missouri; R. A. Campbell, Ex-Lieut. Gov. of Mo.; Geo. G. Vest, U. S. Senator; F. M. Cockrel, U. S. Senator; L. M. Davis, Ex. M. C.,

Mo.; John B. Waddell, Ex-Adj. Gen. of Missouri; A. H. Buckner, Ex. M. C., Mo.; and John S. Phelps, Ex-Governor of Missouri.

The leaflet contains an excerpt from a paper read by J. M. Pelot, M. D. (who was deceased when the leaflet was printed) before the State Medical Association of Missouri. This paper said in part, "The solid constituents of Sweet Springs differ from every famous spring in the world in their great variety and smaller quantity. This water differs from the Saratoga, Gettysburg and other salines in the substitution of chlorides for carbonates, and the presence of the Lithia, Bromide and Manganese salts, the first of these being regarded as the chief recommendation for the Carlsbad and European springs . . . I regard it as the best of all waters denominated as "Saline". Its primary effect is diuretic, and in comparison with ordinary alkaline diuretics, it is more prompt, reliable and presistent".

Dr. Thomas J. Montgomery praised the water highly adding, "I have been informed by mothers, that while nursing children and drinking freely of these waters, the children are usually robust and healthy . . ."

Senator George G. Vest stated, "I have spent several summers at Sweet Springs with my family. . . I can say that I have known many cures there that were almost miraculous. . ."

Judge J. W. Henry, one-time judge of the State Supreme Court, claimed cure of dyspepsia with which he had been afflicted for 20 years.

T. T. Crittenden, ex-Governor of Missouri stated, "I have attended the Sweet Springs for several years during the summer season, . . It is the best appetiser I have ever tried . . ."

John Montgomery, Jr., of Se-

dalia stated, "I feel at times that I could not live without it."

W. H. Federmann, proprietor of four drug stores in Kansas City stated, "I carry the largest stock of mineral waters in the city. I consider Sweet Springs water superior to any I carry for kidney, stomach and bladder troubles."

Winter scene showing pagoda

Disease or disorders claimed cured or remedied by the water were listed in the folder as those of "renal and cystic, nervous and abdominal viscera, dyspepsia, liver, kidney and bladder, diabetes mellitus, women's and children's diseases, stomach and bowels, cholera infantum, malarial fever, capillary bronchitis, consumption, rheumatism."

The cost of water, f. o. b. Sweet Springs depot, was listed as: 5-gallon galvanized tank, \$1.75, 10-gallon galvanized tank \$3.00, tanks refilled, 5-gal. 75c, 10-gal. \$1.00. Tanks shipped by express were to be returned for refilling for 15c.

An analysis of the water per gallon of 231 cubic inches, made by Chas. P. Williams, Ph. D., director of the Missouri School of Mines and Metallurgy, Rolla, Mo. was as follows:

Grains per gal.	
Chloride of Sodium	89.61773
Chloride of Potassium	3.39795
Chloride of Lithium	0.04744
Chloride of Magnesium	22.29123
Chloride of Calcium	14.72127
Bromide of Magnesium ..	0.11801
Sulphate of Calcium	9.45713
Carbonate of Iron	0.56650
Carbonate of Calcium	9.56312
Carbonate of Manganese ..	0.00190
Alumina	0.08921
Silica	1.08461
Organic Matter	4.05300
<hr/>	
Total	155.00928

Herman Schlundt, chemist, of the University of Missouri, rated the water radio-activity at 23.7 and stated that of about 20 different mineral waters of the state tested for radio-activity and radium, the Sweet Springs water was second in the list with regard to activity. According to Mr. Schlundt, this was considered a newly discovered quality of water.

After the Marmaduke military academy burned in 1896 the Drs. Mayfield of St. Louis operated a sanatorium there for two or three years and used the curative waters.

After about 1895 the water continued to be bottled but the making of charged water and soda pop was discontinued. Between about 1915 to 1918 Ed Highley operated the bottling works for a couple years until he moved to another location.

In the latter part of the 1800's and the early 1900's a tank wagon delivered the spring water all over town to stores and houses for five cents a bucket. For a time Charlie Mayse drove the tank wagon.

In the 1920's a local stock company was formed to promote the springs but it shortly became inoperative, and the rights were deeded over to the city when it took possession of the grounds.

In early years the pagoda covering the spring was built by the Marmadukes. Colored attendants in white coats lowered the glasses of water for filling and served it. The pagoda was a graceful building with colored glass windows. Inside the pagoda the spring flowed into a white marble bowl-shaped basin which was about three feet deep and eight feet across. An open trough carried the overflow through the bottling works.



WEST MAIN STREET LOOKING EAST

Buildings identified in the above on the right side of the street many years ago are the Elsner Dry Goods store, the Pape building which was formerly Entral Hotel and was originally three stories high. The tall building in the background was the Conrad Fischer building.



The picture at the left shows three strollers walking past the old bottling plant located in what is now Memorial park.

Taken From The Sweet Springs Herald
Friday, February 24, 1928

Interesting Happenings Of Many Years Ago

Taken From The Brownsville Herald Before and After Name Was Changed to Sweet Springs

The following items were taken from the Brownsville Herald, Geo. W. Tuthill, Publisher, dated Friday, June 4, 1886:

Grand opening of Sweet Springs hotel for the season on the 12th, instead of the 14th., as first announced.

Some of the "smart alecks" about town amuse themselves by lighting Marshal Beaty's lamps after he has put them out. If Buck catches them he will make some of them feel a good deal lighter.

If our people would only throw as much vim and energy and persistence into some public enterprises as they do into politics, we could make Brownsville a booming little city in a short time.

Of course we must have elections at stated times, but it wont do to forget that our Sweet Springs Fair also come around regularly, and we ought to be getting ready for the coming August exhibition.

Our young friend Charley Scott brought in the other day a stalk of rye with a double head, both heads perfect. It is a rare thing to find, we are told; but the soil of Saline is good for phenominal growth of plants. Charley is one of our best and thriftiest farmers but is going it a little stronger on rye than we thought.

The report of Mr. Triplett, Principal of the Public school, shows gratifying progress among the pupils, and a generally satisfactory and healthy condition of

the school. The item of "official visitations" dont loom up in any large and imposing style, there being only four of these reported for the term. But the Board, having done so well in other respects, will probably do better in this next time.

Will somebody give us a single reason why we should not have a rock pile? Higginsville is rapidly getting her streets macadamized in this way, and we believe it can be mathematically demonstrated that if the worthy but negigent citizens who have successively had charge of our city affairs had heeded the earnest and united voice of press and people years ago, we would today have all our principal streets covered with macadam, and the cost would not have been felt by any individual tax-payer. City Fathers, wake up!

DR. PROTTSMAN'S HARD TASK

Washington Special (May 30, 1886) to Republican.

The following article was printed in the Brownsville Herald, June 4th, 1886, Geo. Tuthill, Publisher:

"Yes, I am trying my best to convert Gov. Marmaduke and Senator Vest. You know they both have cottages at Sweet Springs." The speaker was Rev. Dr. Prottzman, pastor of the Southern Methodist church at Brownsville, Mo. He was standing among a group of Missourians at the capitol yesterday af-

ternoon recalling some of the places at which he had been stationed in Missouri.

"Some years after I left Warrensburg, where I had a church at one time and had Senator Cockrell and ex-Gov. Crittenden among my flock," continued the doctor, "I met Gen Cockrell on day and he wanted to know why they hadn't kept me at Warrensburg. Oh, they sent me there to try and convert you and Crittenden, I replied, and I made a perfect failure of that job. Now they have sent me to Independence to convert Frank James and John Crisp."

The jolly old gentleman laughed at his joke and then added penitently: "Well, I failed again, and now I am at Sweet Springs trying what I can do with Vest and Marmaduke."

ITEMS TAKEN FROM THE HERALD DATED FEB. 26, 1897

Chas. Moore & Co., Publishers

Dr. Thos. P. Hereford, of Elmwood was in the city Monday, and left an order for the Household Necessity for one year.

The Oil and Gas Company propose to give the land owners one-tenth instead of one-twentieth as stated in our last issue. Whoop up the leases and lets have a hole in the ground early in the spring.

Leo. Burfeind and family went to Concordia Sunday evening.

John Goggins sold two loads of cattle to Ray & Johnson this week.

Robt. Neil has moved to the Binkley place, five miles south of town.

M. H. Harwood, of St. Louis, was here this week visiting his family.

Chris Elsner made a business trip to Concordia and Higginsville this week.

Wm. Kincaid, of Blackburn, is the guest of friends in the city this week.

Street Commissioner Kirkpatrick put up several new street lamps Tuesday.

W. H. Godlove & Son have sold their stock of goods and business to Mr. Jno. M. Blankenship, of Carrollton, Mo. While we regret very much to see the Messrs Godlove retire from active business, we bespeak for their successor a continuance of the favors shown them.

J. M. Bellamy is decorating and painting his residence. Felix Cook is doing the work.

L. Dickerson, an old settler of the Cretcher neighborhood, died on Tuesday, Feb. 23.

John Paulsmeyer has sold his property situated in the north-eastern part of town to Wm. Hill for \$800.

Ed. S. Rea and wife, of Coffeyville, Kans., came in this week to visit Mrs. Rea's mother, Mrs. Wm. Owens.

Col V. Marmaduke and family have returned to their home at Cripple Creek, Co., after a brief visit to relatives in this city.

Miss Nelle Owens, who is attending Christian College at Columbia, after visiting her mother a few days, returned to school Wednesday morning.

The Sweet Springs Herald,
February 10, 1899:

Big Sale

Major W. H. Dooley last week sold his livery barn here and outfit, and also the lots north of the stable to W. S. Lemmons, of Lincoln, Mo., consideration \$6,000. Major Dooley then bought Mr. Lemons' farm of 360 acres for \$7,000. The farm is three miles north of Lincoln and is said to be a good one. Mr. Lemons will erect a modern and handsome residence on the lots north of the livery barn. The Herald welcomes Mr. Lemons to the city and bespeaks for him the same liberal patronage that Mr. Dooley has enjoyed here Major

Dooley will remain here and run the hotel in the future as he has in the past.

The Sweet Springs Herald,
August 16, 1901:

While two boys, Pleasant Hicks and Ed Gemmil, about 10 years of age each, were playing with a corn sheller in the old deserted mill in the eastern part of town Wednesday, young Gemmil got his hand caught in it and when he finally was liberated the front and middle fingers were badly lacerated.

Dr. Owens was called in and removed part of the bone from the first finger, and sewed each of them up, taking five stitches in one and three in the other.

The shriek of the mill whistle again terrorized our citizens at 1 o'clock, last Friday morning, and a bright glare soon guided everyone to the old town, where the two old shacks west of C. Fischer's blacksmith shop were discovered to be on fire.

The fire started in the west building it being used as a carpenter and paint shop by C. J. Mathews and George Aulgur, and soon spread to the next one used by Phil G. Mathews as

carpenter shop and as a storage room by C. Fischer for his seasoned timber.

The men soon saw that it was useless to try to save either of these two old buildings and turned their attention to C. Fischer's shop, and by dint of hard work saved that building from burning, but not before it had burned the windows and door from the west side.

The building the fire started in belonged to the heirs of Dr. Hawkins and John W. Wilson and was built in 1870 by Rob & Jackson, who conducted a grocery store there. There was no insurance on this building.

The other building belonged to C. Fischer and had no insurance. The loss is estimated by Mr. Fischer at \$500, with no insurance but a few dollars for the windows in his brick building, the heavy loss being his timber in the old building.

The origin of the fire is unknown, but the opinion of the majority of the citizens is that it was caused by the rapid flight of two red bats coming in contact with such terrific force as to cause a combustible explosion. Wouldn't that jar you? It did the bats.

The Cayton Buggy Factory



The J. A. Cayton and Son buggy factory and Blacksmith shop was a sizeable enterprise years ago in Sweet Springs employing 13 men. The building on the left was the buggy factory and the upstairs was used as a paint shop. The building on the right was the blacksmith and woodwork

shop. The buggy factory was built in 1872 and the shop about 60 years ago. Identified in the picture from left are Buge Coffelt, Orville Cayton, J. A. Cayton and M. M. Weekly.

Taken From The Sweet Springs Herald
Friday, February 24, 1928

Celebrates Fifty-Fourth Birthday Anniversary

Sweet Springs Herald, Formerly Brownsville Herald, Passes Fifty-fourth Milestone in Long Life of Usefulness

With this issue, The Herald passes its fifty-fourth milestone of a long and useful life, and starts its fifty-fifth year under the most favorable circumstances. For fifty-four years The Herald has helped fight the battles of the community, has seen right triumph, has seen the town grow from a small hamlet where a few farmers met to swap yarns, do their meagre trading, and then wend their way home in the old ox cart, or at best in a big wagon, to its present position in the world of industry, with its large and up-to-date stores, with their immense stocks of goods and where many clerks are required to take care of the wants of customers; its shoe factory where hundreds of workmen earn a livelihood, its creamery, where approximately \$2,500 is paid out weekly to farmers of the neighborhood, placing them far ahead of farmers of other localities not so situated; has seen the mud roads turn to a shiny ribbon of concrete, worming its way across the state from east to west, with its connecting links with other highways, thus connecting Sweet Springs with the outside world in any direction; has seen the old ox cart and wagon give way to the modern automobile which can make the trip across the state in a few hours, and the huge truck which can carry almost as much as a box car, and while it has looked on these great improvements it has grown with the community, until at this time, from its hum-

ble beginning with a few cases of type and its old and antiquated presses, it is equipped with the finest linotype equipment, a large cylinder press, jobber, casting machines where cuts are made from mats, and has one of the most up-to-date and modern job plants to be found in any town this size in the state. It has not stood idly by and watched the town grow, but has taken an active part in that growth, and has itself more than kept pace. Fifty-four years of usefulness, and never once has it furled its flag and acknowledged defeat.

While the present management has been at the helm but the past two years, the reins have only been taken up where former owners passed them on, the aims and aspirations are the same now as they have always been, and always will be, and when another fifty-four years have passed the management at that time will, no doubt, be carrying on the work undertaken and started one hundred and eight years before, and so on down the line, for no newspaper man worthy the name will ever permit the name of his paper to be dragged into the dirt, or its reputation smirched.

It is with the greatest pleasure the management presents this anniversary edition to the large army of subscribers, and it is hoped they will, one and all, be able to find something within its columns that will give them some inspiration to reach out

and grasp the better things of life, to strive to go forward and not backward, and to place their goal on the hilltop of success and refuse to turn back until that goal has been attained.

THE VERY EARLY DAYS

Mr. Prigmore landed at Boonville in 1818, two years later moving to the mouth of South Fork near Brownsville. At that time there were two families of Mayes—John and Matt—living at McAllister Springs; two families of Reavis—Ed. and Isham. These four and Mr. Prigmore's family making five, were the only white settlers in the neighborhood. The Mayse both moved in a short time, and Messrs. John and Robert Owens moved into their places. This was about the year 1824. Some three or four years after this, on account of trouble with the Indians on the north side of the Missouri river, all of the settlers left, all going to Howard county, and by the next spring all had returned. The Osages, Kaws, Kickahoos, Sacs, Delewares, and a few Shawnees were the Indian tribes that frequented this part of the country at this time. They were perfectly friendly and honest. The settlers traded, hunted, ran horse and foot races and wrestled with the Indians in perfect peace. All of the settlers were

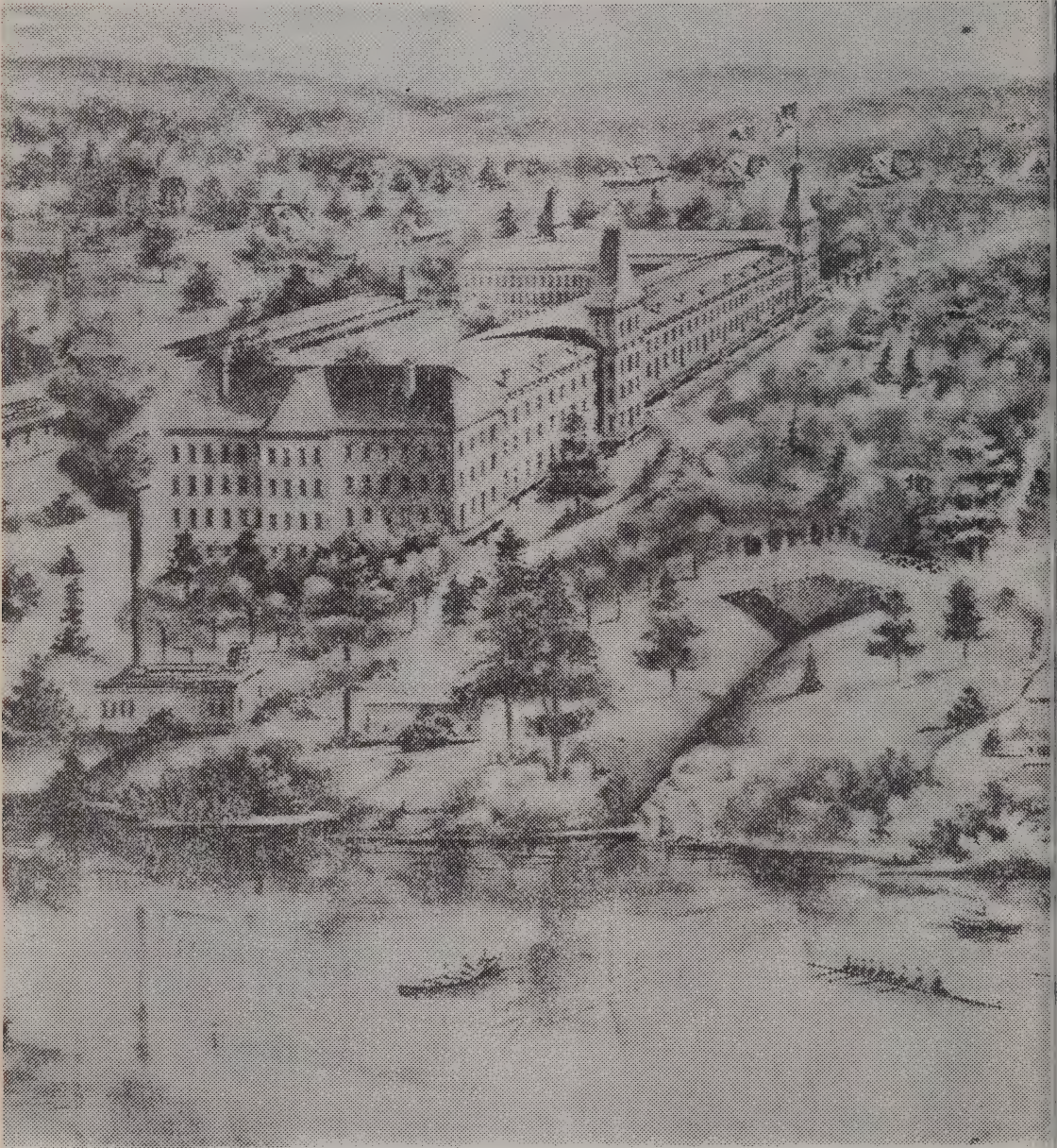
farmers except Mr. Reavis, who farmed and made salt. They were all from Kentucky, excepting Parsons and Pennill, who were from Virginia.

The nearest mill was a horse mill owned by a Mr. McFarland, situated about forty-five miles away, southwest of Boonville. They would take a wagon load of wheat and corn at a time once or twice a year. That was so much trouble that Mr. Prigmore bought a small pair of millstones and fived them up to run by hand power. It was fed by a few grains of corn at a time, thrown in by hand.

Edward Reavis had what they called a mortar made in this way. The mortar was a log adzed out so as to make a basin that would hold about one half bushel. The pestle was a timber four or five inches in diameter and six or seven feet long, with an iron in the head of it, similar to an iron wedge. A pole was fastened by one end to the ground, and then a post was put in the ground, so that the pole would rest on it at the spring. The pole was fastened to a post and on the end of the pole was attached the pestle, and a pin put through to work it by.

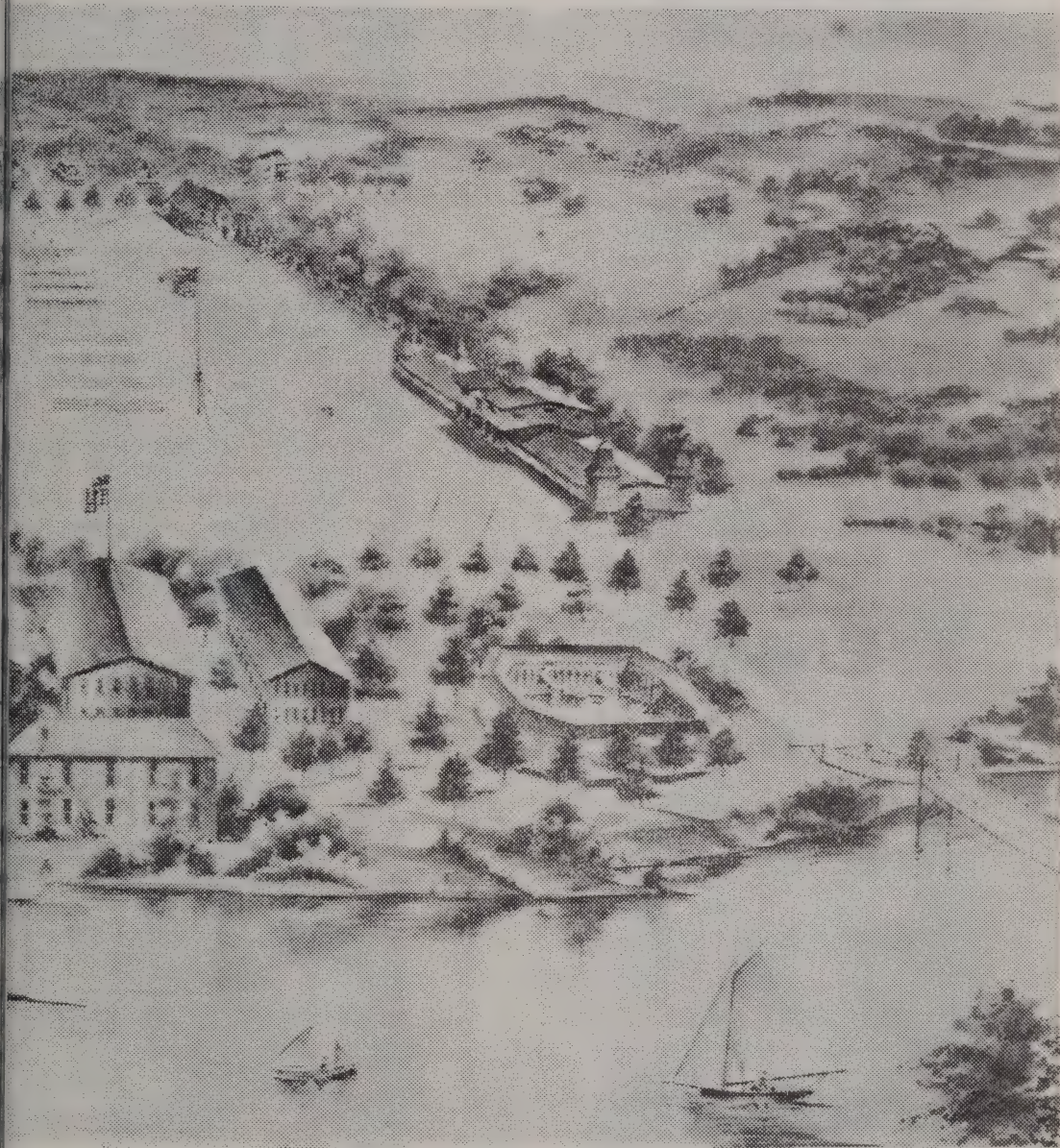
Their clothing was made from cotton and flax, which was raised, carded, spun and woven at home by the women folks.

The Marmaduke My



Above is a scene from the Marmaduke Military year book published in the year 1894. Many romantic stories are attached to the institution located on the banks of Blackwater river which was used in those days for steamboat travel from McAllister Springs to Sweet Springs.

My Academy--1894



This composite picture shows the cavalry barn, the academy dormitory, drill field and drill hall, heating plant, many other buildings that were part of the academy and the resort homes in the background.

Sham Battle At Sweet Springs

Gen. John S. Marmaduke Simulates Battle of Wilson's Creek At State Militia Encampment

By Will C. Pelot, Member Saline County Historical Society.

This week Springfield is celebrating the seventy-seventh anniversary of the Battle of Wilson's Creek, bloodiest hand-to-hand action ever fought on Missouri soil. Just before breakfast Saturday, August 10, 1861, Gen. Nathaniel Lyon, West Pointer, and Col. Franz Siegel, experienced German tactician, with a Federal force of 5,000 comprising U. S. regular infantry and artillery and Kansas and Iowa volunteers, made a surprise attack on 13,000 Confederate militia recruited by Gen. Sterling Price in Missouri and Gen. Ben McCulloch, Texas Ranger, in Texas, Arkansas and Louisiana.

Six hours of bitter close-quarter fighting in corn fields and scrub oaks ended at noon when Lyon was killed recklessly leading a charge of faltering Kansas troops. Siegel, his field pieces having been captured, withdrew to St. Louis; Price took his Johnny Rebs south into Arkansas; history calls it a draw.

Twenty-five years later, in 1886, Gen. John S. Marmaduke, Saline county native, was governor of Missouri. His brothers, Darwin W. and Leslie Marmaduke, had since 1876 owned the Sweet Springs property here, operating a three-story hotel and numerous cabins and cottages with a fashionable patronage from St. Louis, Kansas City and other Mid-West cities. Naturally the Governor spent his summers here with kinsmen and political

and social friends.

The General was actively interested in the Missouri state militia, three regiments of which later were to become the Missouri national guards and form the backbone of the 35th Division which made such an excellent record in the Meuse-Argonne offensive in France in the autumn of 1918. As commander-in-chief he ordered a state encampment for training on the Sweet Springs Fairgrounds with a sham battle planned to simulate the Battle of Wilson's Creek on its twenty-fifth anniversary.

I came into the picture by having just graduated from the Macon Military Academy. (By the way, other Saline county boys at Macon that year were Ollie Bulkley of Blackburn and Joe, John and Churchill Guthrey of Miami).

When the General noticed me parading about in our braided and button-bedecked cadet grey uniform, he promptly made me his aide-de-camp and put me to work. I quickly learned that an A. D. C. is only a glorified errand boy, and that Marmaduke was a driver. Chief compensation was in his letting me use his magnificent Denmark mount, Satan, pick of the Barnhill and Robertson livery stable, in frequent trips to town to file telegrams and attend to his mail. That would make any 17-year-old boy proud, for Satan and I certainly were conspicuous that week.

The militia units badly needed training. Exceptions were the flashy Busch Zouaves of St. Louis and the Marmaduke Guards of Kansas City. Most of the men had a lot to learn in the school of the soldier, or so it seemed to one just freed from the exacting daily drill of a mil-

itary academy. But I can attest they learned a lot in a week.

I remember sitting on the steps of Senator George G. Vest's porch on the Spring Grounds, the evening before the sham battle, listening to Marmaduke, Vest, Senator Francis M. Cockrell, Judge John F. Phillips and my father, Dr. James M. Pelot, the Springs' physician, while the General analyzed the Wilson's Creek engagement and discussed the next day's program. It was fascinating to hear a military genius of Marmaduke's proven caliber reconstruct the fight and comment on the strategy involved. The other gentlemen were all former Confederate officers but Phillips, who had been a Federal captain. Vest and Phillips were former law partners at Georgetown, close friends, but profanely argumentative about the Civil War.

The day of the sham battle was broiling hot, windless. There was a huge crowd. Special trains came from the big cities. Farm families for twenty miles around drove to town. The battle began at 2 p. m., and raged for two hours. I am not sure the crowd saw much of it, and I suspect we who were in the fight saw less. The men fired black powder in their Springfields and the field pieces, and soon were groping through the battle smoke, sweaty, begrimed and miserable. The "slaughter" was terrible—especially on the stretcher bearers. I am told the official observers filed a detailed report of operations with the Adjutant General, but much of it must have been imaginary.

One incident, however, I will always remember. Late in the engagement one element of the defense was driven across Collins' Ford at the big bend of Blackwater and adjudged out of action. At once they stripped and washed away the battle grime in

the cool creek waters. And so, as soon as cease firing sounded, the entire "army" posted guards and took to the creek like school-boys, just as our boys in the A. E. F. refreshed themselves in the Aisne and the Vesle, the Marne and the Meuse, even under fire, in those summer days of 1918.

Society folks at the Springs ended the colorful week with a grand military hop at the dance pavilion on the last evening. It was a thrilling event, no doubt fresh in the memory of many a dear old Saline county grandmother whose girlish heart was stirred fifty-two years ago by trim young officers, squires for the time in valse and polka, mazurka and square dance of those sedate days.

Twenty-Two Members Old Timers' Club

That Many Residents of Sweet Springs Have Passed the 80th Year

There is a present enrollment of 22 active members in the "Old Timers' Club," the qualifications being that one shall be a bona fide resident of Sweet Springs, in his 80th year or over. The dean of the Club is Dan T. Root, nearing 93. He was born in Connecticut in 1835, moved to Illinois in 1855, to Missouri in 1859, and came here in 1860, leaving Longwood in a hurry after casting his first vote for Abraham Lincoln. Longwood had mistaken convictions. He is learning to watch his step, and friends will see to it that he casts a careful vote next November.

A little younger are J. A. Sink, 92 and a month, and Abraham Widder, 92 in June. Both are retired farmers of the neighborhood. Mr. Sink came from North Carolina to Greene coun-

ty in 1863, and to Saline in 1875. Mr. Widder came from Pennsylvania to Illinois in 1860, to Saline County in 1870, and finally into town. H. Strong Smith was 90 last November. He was born in Ralls County and has been here or near here since 1866, interested in store keeping, farming and banking.

Three other retired farmers follow on the list. George Mueller, nearing 89, came from Illinois in 1892, and into town in 1914; August Dierking, 88, one of the oldest settlers in the County, came from Hanover, Germany, in 1844 to a farm a few miles west; he bought town property in 1913; John H. Achamire, nearing 88, came from Ohio in 1875, and into town four years ago; Henry H. Stemming, the wagon maker, Prussian-born in 1842, reached St. Louis in 1861, and followed the new railroad here in 1872.

The 1844 crop produces two retired farmers. M. M. Randol was born in Indiana, moved to Cass County in 1867, and came here in 1919; Henry Akeman was born on a Boone County farm, and came to Saline in 1888. The oldest native citizen is "Squire" W. H. Reavis, 82, born February 18, 1846, in a log cabin at the end of Main Street; he and a sister and brother have spent their whole life here. Nine weeks younger is A. H. Dankenbring; he was born in Germany, reached St. Louis in 1848, Lafayette county in 1850, and Saline County in 1884. Also nearing 82 are Thomas G. Nelson, born August 25, 1846, in Cooper County, who moved here as a harness maker in 1875, and Louis Bruns, born just six days later.

The oldest business man of the community is J. A. Cayton, nearing 81; he was born in St. Joseph in 1847, and has been here since 1873; he retired only last year. Rev. N. A. Nickerson also dates from 1847; he was

born in Indiana, moved to Missouri in 1856, and to Sweet Springs seven years ago, on retiring from the ministry.

The rest of the members were born in 1848. C. W. Hedger, 80 on New Year's Day, was born in Kentucky, came to Missouri in 1871 and to Sweet Springs in 1903. W. D. Rockwell, the tinner, was 80 on January 29; he was born in Baltimore, raised in Lexington, and has worked here continuously since 1873. W. P. Stallings was born in Polk County March 10, and came here in 1884; he founded the grocery store now being so ably conducted by his son, W. H. Stallings, and Mrs. Stallings. G. Scholle was born in Leipsic, Prussia, April 3; he moved to Moniteau County in 1853, to Concordia in 1892, to a farm east of town in 1893, and into town in 1915. T. C. Andrew, the dry goods merchant, was born in North Carolina June 16; he came to Sweet Springs from Virginia in 1871 and founded his present business in 1886. Peter Durnil was born in Virginia, September 8; he moved to Greene County in 1856 and to Saline County in 1865. He has lived here since 1914.

During the past year there have passed away five of our elderly citizens: Freel Sanders Edwards, born in Virginia, February 22, 1845; Augustus H. Lynch, born in Missouri October 20, 1845; Edward Gemmil, born in Pennsylvania, October 24, 1845; Conrad Fischer, born in Hanover, Germany, October 20, 1840, and J. Bennett Davis, born in Saline County March 30, 1848. Mr. Edwards was the last Confederate soldier of the community; Mr. Lynch and Mr. Gemmil were on the other side, and leave only five Union men in our midst: Messrs. Widder, Mueller, Achamire, Akeman and Reavis. Mr. Fischer had long been a wagon maker here, and Mr.

Davis a farmer of the Elmwood neighborhood before retiring to Sweet Springs.

W. H. REAVIS

Wade Hampton Reavis was born February 18, 1846, in a double log house that stood at the east end of what is now Main Street. It was on a 200-acre farm lying to the east of Locust Street, owned by his father, Overton Reavis, who married Nancy Stone Berry. The Reavis family were the first settlers in Salt Pond Township, in 1817, coming from Kentucky; the Berry family came from the same state in 1820. Overton Reavis had three children: W. H., Mrs. Mary Lou Ray and Thomas B., who are the three oldest natives of Sweet Springs. He joined Capt. Calvin J. Miller and William D. Waller in the gold rush in April, 1850, and he and Waller died of mountain fever the following August in a camp 30 miles north of Sacramento. Mrs. Nancy Reavis died in October, 1864.

Mr. Reavis got his early education in the one-room cabin school that used to stand in "Old Town", on Main Street, and was a student in Rev. J. L. Yantis' College at the Springs in 1860-61, when the Civil War started. He enlisted at the age of 18 in Co. F., 45th. Mo. Infantry, in July, 1864; trained at Sedalia and was on the drive south through Tennessee when the war ended.

On February 14, 1871, he married Lucy Ann Smith. Five of their seven children survive: Edwin, formerly postmaster here; Mrs. Martha Tisdale, Sweet Springs; Tol G., Arizona; and Harry O., Tulsa, Okla. The last two saw service in the World War. Two children, Malburn and "Baby Brother," died in infancy. Mrs. Lucy Reavis died January 13, 1915. Mr. Reavis now makes his home with his daughter Mar-

tha.

He was converted to the faith of the Christian Church at a revival held here in January, 1867, by Rev. George L. Longan, a pioneer evangelist. He was baptised with several others during the same month by Rev. Milo L. Laughlin in the old swimming hole at the fish trap in Davis Creek, after a five-inch sheet of ice had been cleared. For over three score years he has regularly attended his church, and for a great portion of that time was clerk of the Board. He was initiated in Barbee Lodge No. 217, A. F. & A. M., on November 27, 1868, and made a Master Mason December 29, 1868. He was Worshipful Master of the lodge for three years, from June 24, 1883.

In 1872 Mr. Reavis acted as Assessor in this part of Saline County, and later was elected Constable of Salt Pond Township. When Brownsville was incorporated he was elected the first Mayor, April 3, 1878, after a close race with Major J. G. Tooley. He was also Mayor at the time the name was changed from Brownsville to Sweet Springs, August 1, 1887, and has served several times since. He was Justice of the Peace for about 30 years, during most of which time he had a fine fire insurance business here. He helped organize the first Building & Loan Association, in 1884, and was its secretary. He has also served as school director—in fact, for 50 years at least, Mr. Reavis has been closely identified with the business and social life of the city.

He has a splendid memory, and so serves as the court of last resort for the "Old Timers' Club" when a debate starts. Mr. Reavis has been in good health this winter, down town every day, always ready for a checker game—but unfortunately an argumentative loser.

T. C. ANDREW

Scotch and Irish blood blended in pre-Revolutionary times characterizes the Andrew family. One of the strain, Nathan Farrow Andrew, a cabinet maker, left North Carolina in 1850, tarried in Virginia until after the Civil War, moved on to Indiana, and in 1869 brought his family in a covered wagon to Salt Pond Township. Two years later they moved to town. Nathan and three of his sons have died here, David S., Samuel and William.

But one of Nathan's sons survives, Thomas C., who was born in Randolph county, North Carolina, June 16, 1848. He seems to have been an adventurous youth, for in Virginia during the Civil War he drove a commissary wagon for the Union troops and can match war tales with the best of them. He attended Wytheville Seminary in Virginia, and later taught school two years in the state.

Mr. Andrew married Sarah Caroline Pulley here October 3, 1873. There were ten children; Charlotte and Mary died in infancy. Mrs. Sarah Andrew died December 3, 1915. The children living are Mrs. Mabel Barnett, Oklahoma City; Mrs. Dollie Stuerke, Sweet Springs, Mrs. Zula Burkhart, Tulsa, Oklahoma; Mrs. "T. C." Wood, Kansas City; Theron and Elwyn, Galena, Oklahoma; Waldo E., Sweet Springs, and William, Tulsa, Oklahoma. Mr. Andrew's second marriage was with Elizabeth Reavis, January 10, 1918.

While the older Andrew folk were Quakers, Mr. Andrew was converted in the Christian church here, and was baptized by Rev. C. A. Hedrick. He has been a Sunday School teacher for 50 years, and otherwise active. He was made a Master Mason in the local lodge in 1877, and has served as Secretary and as Worshipful Master. During the World

War there were service scars for Waldo, Elwyn and William, and "T. C." was active in Red Cross work.

Mr. Andrew is head of one of our largest stores. He learned merchandising in several earlier stores, and in 1888 started for himself. In 1896 Adolph E. Stuerke joined him; in 1901 Jules H. Vogelsmeier came; in 1901 the present firm was formed. In 1910 Waldo E. Andrew was taken in, but left for the postmastership in 1923.

Mr. Andrew is a great traveler. He knows America from coast to coast. Just now he and Mrs. Andrew are away on a journey embracing Florida and Cuba, and a recent letter in The Herald will show the good he gets from his trips.

LETTER FROM T. C. ANDREW To The Herald:

Answering your request that I add something to your anniversary edition and recount some of my recollections of the babyhood of Brownsville, now Sweet Springs, beginning at the point where I became a part of it.

I beg to say I don't mind recalling early history, but don't like reminiscences. So when recounting early history becomes reminiscent, I am off the track. I first reached Brownsville on an afternoon in November 1869, after having driven steadily in a two horse wagon for twenty-eight days from a point in eastern Indiana, near Richmond. The trip could be made now in an auto in half that many hours.

The town was then little more than a "prospect", but a lively prospect. It promised to be the best town in Saline county, the only town having a railroad. The road was not finished but nearing completion and in a few months the rails were being laid. A building boom was starting mostly of cheaply constructed frame or box buildings. Soon af-

ter the road was completed real trouble began brewing. Some parties (we need not call names) owned land along Main Street, and others along the railroad near the depot. Each side thought his the better site for the town and they each engaged in an earnest effort to secure it. The result was the town was stifled or stunted in its infancy and early growth. It became "old town" and "new town". The bad effects have barely ceased to exist.

One night a mass meeting was called in the interest of The Herald, which was about to be launched. Dr. Prottsman told a story of a man who hired two Irishmen to saw some logs for him. He gave them a cross cut saw and started them to the timber. At noon he went out to see how they were progressing. He found nothing had been done. Each man was firmly gripping his end of the saw. Mike Meginity said, "John Mahoney could never pull a saw away from him". Mahoney said "Mike Meginity could not take a saw from him, he would die first." The moral—the way to get results from a cross cut saw is to give and take. The story told in Dr. Prottsman's inimitable way was well received, but it took a long time to learn to use a cross cut saw.

A movement was started to create Brown county by taking a strip off of Saline, Pettis and Lafayette counties. A delegation was sent to Jefferson City to try to lobby it through the legislature, but failed, of course, so Brown county "died abornin."

The first sidewalk constructed in the residence section was on Bridge Street. It consisted of one wide board or two narrow ones nailed to short pieces like stove-wood. It was like some walks in old Havana—side-walks because they were so narrow one could

hardly walk on them sideways.

The Marmaduke brothers, Vincent, Darwin and Leslie, took the initiative in changing the name to Sweet Springs, though it did not meet strong opposition. Sweet Springs got a hard jolt by the cyclone on April 18, 1882, but did not despair.

It has now had a new birth of progress and prosperity and loyalty, and its future is secure if we all pull together in the same forward direction.

1987388

T. C. Andrew

J. A. CAYTON, 80

A lot is explained about this "old timer" when we find the Caytons came from Ireland and that a Scotch strain crops up on his mother's side. His grandfather, another Jacob, was a Kentuckian, but moved to Missouri and ran the first ferry across the Missouri River to Leavenworth. J. A. Cayton's father was born in Lamine, Saline county. He had a family of eleven children, of whom survive J. A., and a sister, Mrs. Emma Donahue of Kansas City, Kansas.

Jacob A. Cayton was born June 20, 1847, in St. Joseph. The family was in Belmont, Kansas, in 1857, the bloody year of the border warfare, and from 1867 to 1869 J. A. lived in Atchison, learning blacksmithing and wagon making. He has been faithful to his home state ever since, settling in Sweet Springs in February, 1872, about the time the railway was extended to Lexington. His partnership with W. D. Carmack dates from April 3, 1872, their shop standing on the corner now occupied by the Lutheran church.

On December 11, 1873, he married his partner's daughter, Emma H. Carmack. They have two children living: Orville and Mrs. Maude Velma Bonham, Kansas City. Two daughters have passed on: Lora Lee, who died in in-

Two Old Sweet Springs Residences



The Pelot home on Spring street was constructed in 1872 and remodeled after the cyclone in 1882.



The Owens home on Bridge Street

fancy, and Bessie Lee, who died September 30, 1927.

Mr. Cayton remained at the old corner long after Mr. Carmack's death, March 11, 1897, but in 1925 sold to the Lutheran congregation and bought the brick building he now owns at Main and Miller Streets, and started a hardware and implement business. He retired January 7, 1926, selling his stock and good will to his son, Orville, and Frank G. Weathers, now trading as Cayton & Weathers.

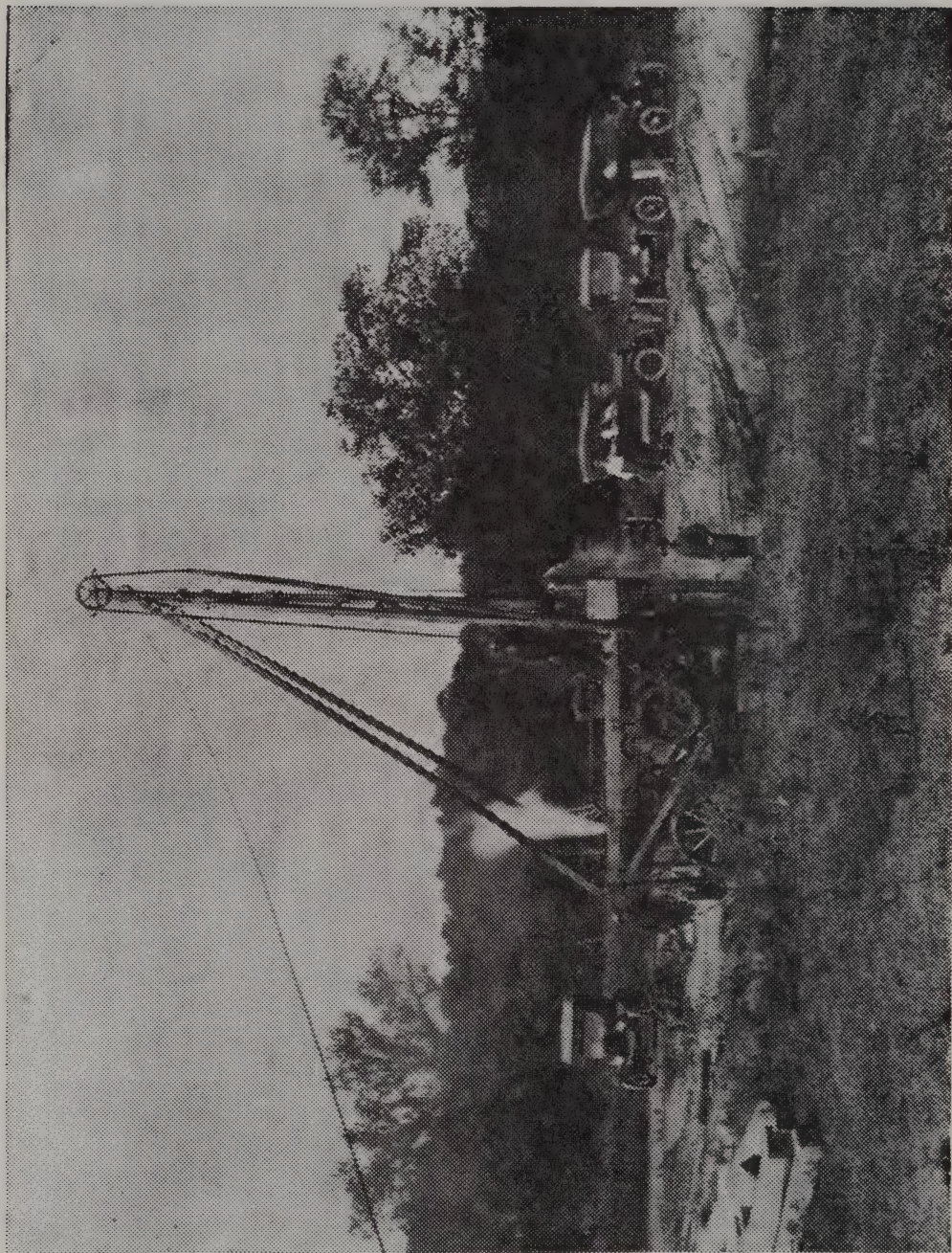
Early in life Mr. Cayton made his profession in the Methodist faith, but in 1888 both Mr. and Mrs. Cayton were baptised in the Baptist church, of which for a great many years he was Sunday School superintendent. He was initiated an Odd Fellow in 1873, has filled every office in that order, and is still an active attendant. He served for 18 years as Alderman from the First

Ward, and several times as City Treasurer.

One of "Jake" Cayton's memories is that on August 20, 1874, he was one of a group of greatly interested citizens who crowded into The Herald office and watched George W. Tuthill run off the first issue. He has been identified with practically every other matter of civic endeavor since that auspicious event, and still takes a lively interest in what is going on for the good of the town.

In 1887 Mr. Cayton was a member of the school board responsible for the first grade school building here, after a long fight against injunctions to prevent the issue of \$12,000 in bonds. That school burned in 1907 and was replaced by a \$30,000 structure. He was alderman during a similar bitter fight against building the former city hall on Miller Street, in 1892.

Casing The Gusher



Above picture shows what is reported to be the drill rig of Clay Calhoun being used to ream the hole for installation of casing. The gusher was originally drilled around 1900.

Early History of Brownsville—Sweet Springs

(The following information was taken from the History of Saline County, published by the St. Louis Missouri Historical Company, and is the property of Mrs. C. B. Bonham.)

Mrs. Mary A. Laughlin, who came to Saline County, December 3, 1836, and who has resided in the vicinity of Brownsville since that time and from the 7th of February, 1845, in the town states that the first house on the the town site was built by an old bachelor named Asa Pennington, who was from Kentucky. He lived on Davis creek, and built a sawmill on the ground where later Webb & Oldhom put up a steam flouring mill which was afterwards burned down.

It is asserted that the town was laid in 1832, but Mrs. Laughlin states that the first settlers were John Berry and James Fitzpatrick, who came in February, 1837. Fitzpatrick built a house on what is now Main street, and opened a dry goods store, selling the first goods ever sold in the place. He entered the land in section eleven, on which the greater portion of the town now is. He was a Kentuckian and died in Lafayette County many years ago. John Berry died in Brownsville, and lies in the town graveyard by the side of his wife. He came from Boone County to this place.

The first marriage was that of Dickinson Berry and Mary Jane Lemon. The first male child born in the town was George Wentworth, in November, 1839. His father was Stephen G. Wentworth, the founder of the town, and his mother's maiden name was Eliza Kincaid. The child was born on lot number fourteen. It afterward died at Lexington when only a small boy. The first female born was a daughter of Hick and Mary J. Berry, born in September, 1838. The first death

was Mrs. John Berry, in 1838; she was buried in the town cemetery. (It is said however, that a grandchild of hers died and was buried before her.)

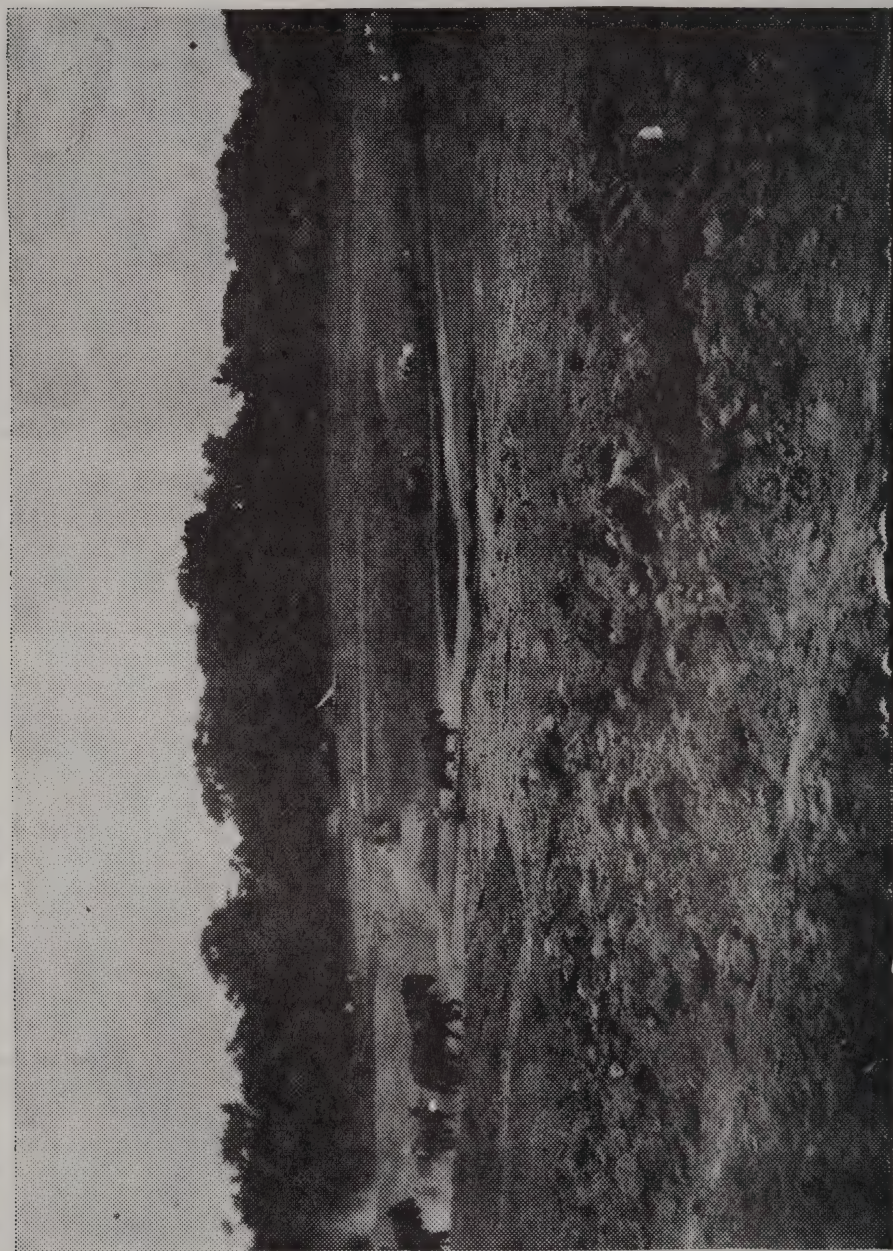
The first regular physician was Dr. Nathan Ostrander, from New York, who afterward removed to Oregon. Dr. D. I. Parsons was the next. He resides in Brownsville now. Probably, in advance of these, was Doctor Thornton, who practiced through this region at an early day, although his home was in Johnson County.

The first church organized in the place was the Christian, in the first part of the year 1850, and the first minister was Archibald Stewart, also a Christian. Prior to this, however, there had been an organization of the Christians, at the Sweet Springs, in 1843, but they had no regular house of worship. Lewis Elgin was their pastor.

The first school in the place was taught by Mrs. Mary J. Berry, about the year 1848, in a cabin on lot 6, section 10. She had about ten scholars and her compensation did not exceed \$10 per month. The first school house erected was in the fall of 1858 to 1859. It was built on the lot where the public school building now stands, by Alex Daniels and—Mock, and cost \$600.

Mrs. Laughlin further states that she bought goods in the town in July, 1837, and that she heard a sermon preached by Dr. Yantis, in December, 1836, four miles north of town. She said there were Methodist preachers through here at different times, but no organizations of that denomination until after the Chris-

Swimming Pool—An Aggressive Step Then



This view shows workmen and teams digging the swimming pool that is still being used today. Water from the guesher is utilized in this pool.

tians.

From statements made by other parties, and from the records, it appears that Stephen G. Wentworth was the founder of the town; that it was laid out in 1832, and incorporated, May 3, 1870. Milo L. Laughlin was the first mayor. The post office was established in 1840, and James Fitzgerald was the first postmaster. The first minister in the town was Rev. John Hood, Methodist. The first cemetery was on Locust street, and is still used. The first religious services in the neighborhood were held in a log school house, four miles east of town, by a Methodist. The remainder of the town history given, corresponds with the statements of Mrs. Laughlin.

The present town officers are: Mayor, W. H. Reavis; city board, W. D. Rembert, Wm. Spurgeon, G. W. Smith, and W. P. Gilbert; city marshal, John De Long; treasurer, W. D. Rembert; clerk, A. L. Clinkenbeard.

Mr. Wm. B. Kincaid stated to Mr. Letcher, in 1876, that Brownsville as laid out in lots in 1838, by Stephen G. Wentworth and Wm. Brown, the miller. These men owned the land on which the town was built. The town was named for Mr. Brown. There were then two cabins, a mill on Davis creek, (probably Pennington's) a blacksmith shop and a store. The township at that day was twice as large as at present, and the voting population was less than forty. Considerable cotton was raised in the section and old Mr. Prigmore had a cotton gin.

During the Civil war Federal troops were stationed at Brownsville a portion of the time, many of whom lived in the neighborhood. A great many of the people of the township were opposed to secession, opposed to the Confederacy, and warmly attached to the old Federal Union.

At one time a scouting party of militia captured a young Confederate near Brownsville, with a large batch of mail from the Confederate army for friends and relatives north of the river, whither he was going. The young Southerner was but a mere boy, but he was dressed in Federal uniform, and so he was tried and shot as a spy.

The Guerrilla leaders, Dave Poole, Bill Anderson, Blunt and Yager, passed through at different times on their marauding expeditions. Poole is the only one of these leaders now alive.

The first railroad ever built in Saline county was then called the Lexington and St. Louis railroad, now the Lexington branch of the Missouri Pacific. It passed through the southwest corner of Salt Pond township, and Brownsville was the first railroad station in the county. Track-laying was begun at Sedalia, in the month of August, and finished to Brownsville in December, 1871. The station was opened December 31. James Henry was the first station agent, telegraph operator, etc. He states that then hemp comprised about one-third of the outward shipments from the station during the first year, but that this product dwindled down in seven years from that time, so that there was not a pound shipped in 1878. During the large corn-crop year of 1875 there were 1,955 car-loads of corn shipped from Brownsville, inside of five months; and one-third of the total receipts of corn at St. Louis, during that time, was from Brownsville and Saline county. In 1872, the water of the Sweet Springs was shipped from Brownsville, and with this commenced their favorable notoriety. It is claimed that Mr. Henry inaugurated the practice of shipping this famous water. He bought two-gallon jugs, and sent samples of it in every di-

The Sweet Springs Pagoda



This beautiful setting of the famous sweet spring for which Sweet Springs was named was constructed and arranged during the time of the Marmaduke resort hotel. It is reported that at times a porter was on hand to work the mechanism to bring the water from the spring up to the pagoda.

rection, to every important express office within 500 miles.

Following is a list of some of the early day settlers and business men of Salt Pond Township:

August Elsner—Son of J. and D. Elsner of Germany, born July 21, 1851.

C. J. Herring—Son of Jonathan and Cordelia Herring, born in Saline County December 28, 1857, son of Jonathan and Cordelia Herring.

William Surgin—Son of Rev. Josiah and Mary Spurgin, born in Davidson County, N. C., August 1837.

Thomas G. Nelson—Son of John B. and Elizabeth Nelson, born August 25, 1846, in Cooper County.

William T. Sim—Son of Alexander and Ann Sim, born in Scotland, April 7, 1840.

John Lapsley Yantis, D.D.—Born September 14, 1804, in Lancaster, Garrard County, Kentucky.

James Evans—Son of David and Phoebe Evans, born in Fayette County, Pennsylvania.

A. Widder—Son of George and Mary Widder, born June 5, 1836.

William Owens—Born in Lafayette County, January 8, 1828.

George W. Tuthill—Son of P. T. and Susan D. Tuthill, December 27, 1835.

Robert G. Ware—Son of Preston and Nancy Ware, born December 2, 1805.

William L. Crain—Son of James A. and Catherine Crain, April 1, 1832.

N. F. Andrew—Born January 31, 1812, son of William and Hannah Andrew.

William M. Hill—Son of Marshall and Frances Hill, born April 21, 1844.

Christoph Brandt—Born February 16, 1833, son of Claus and Hannah Brandt, in Hanover, Germany.

John F. Weber—Son of Henry and Elizabeth Weber, born in

1826 in Hanover, Germany.

Talbot Hicklin—Son of James and Nancy Hicklin was born July 23, 1855.

Joseph W. Hall—Son of John and Rachel Hall, born October 16, 1807.

Thomas B. McEntire—Son of John P. and Mary A. McEntire, born August 25, 1844.

D. L. Berry—Son of Tyre M. and Hettie Berry, born April 7, 1837.

A. J. Tisdale—Son of William T. and Lydia Tisdale, born February 20, 1835.

C. F. Elsner—Son of J. and D. Elsner, born November 19, 1857 in Holstein, Germany.

B. T. Bellamy—Son of William and Sarah Bellamy, born February 14, 1848.

W. D. Carmack—Son of Joseph and Sarah Carmack, born July 16, 1823.

P. D. Van Dyke—Son of John H. and Pheobe Vandyke, born February 5, 1828.

M. L. Laughlin—Son of James and Letitia Laughlin, born in Portage County, Ohio.

Early Day Entries In County Court Record

September 22, 1856—the town of Brownsville incorporated.

December 20, 1858—the town of Brownsville disincorporated.

April 23, 1870—petition of incorporation for the town of Brownsville filed.

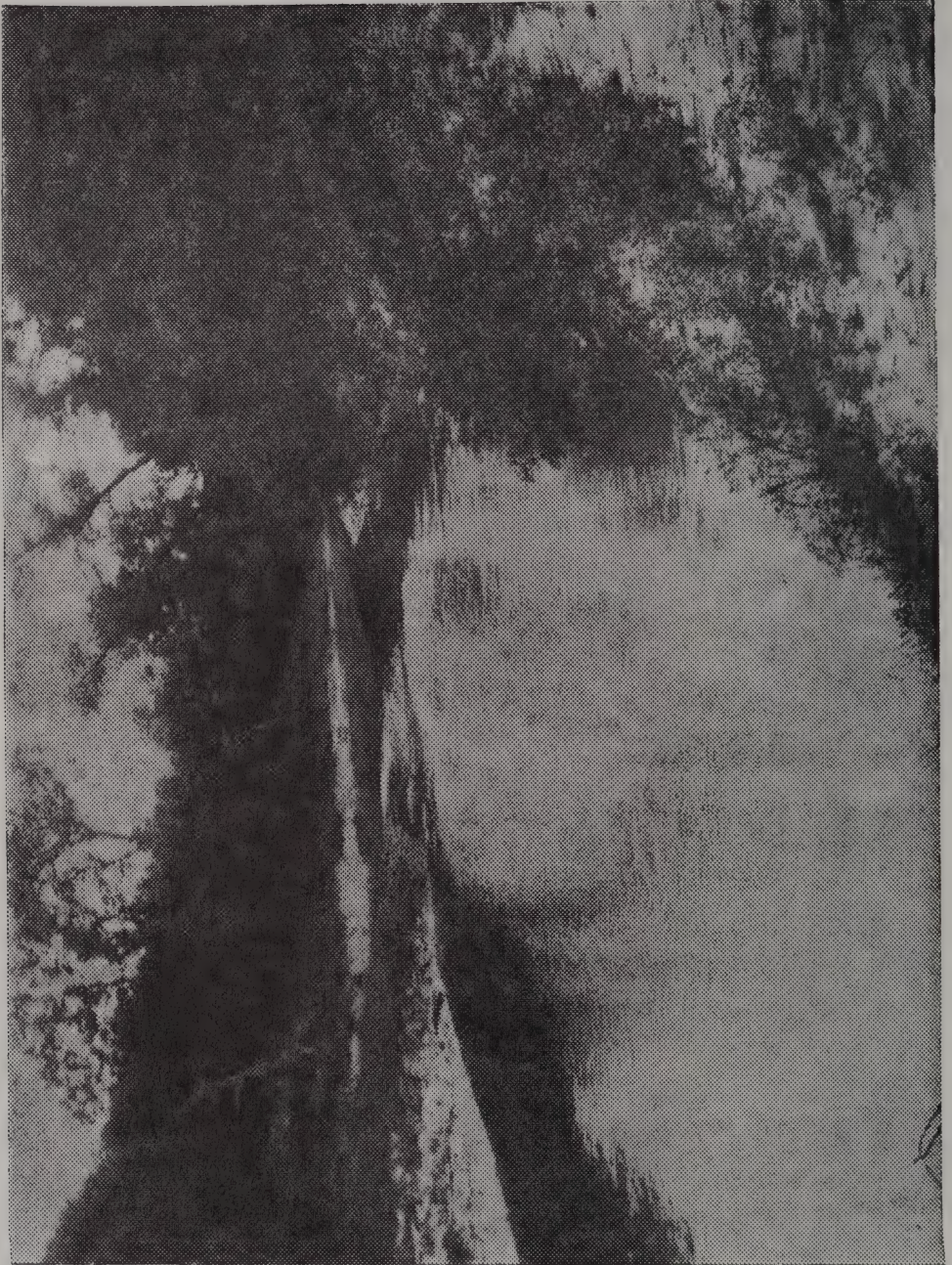
May 3, 1870—Brownsville incorporated.

July 2, 1877—dram shop license granted to Sweet Springs company.

October 11, 1899—Sweet Springs school district organized with W. H. Reavis as treasurer.

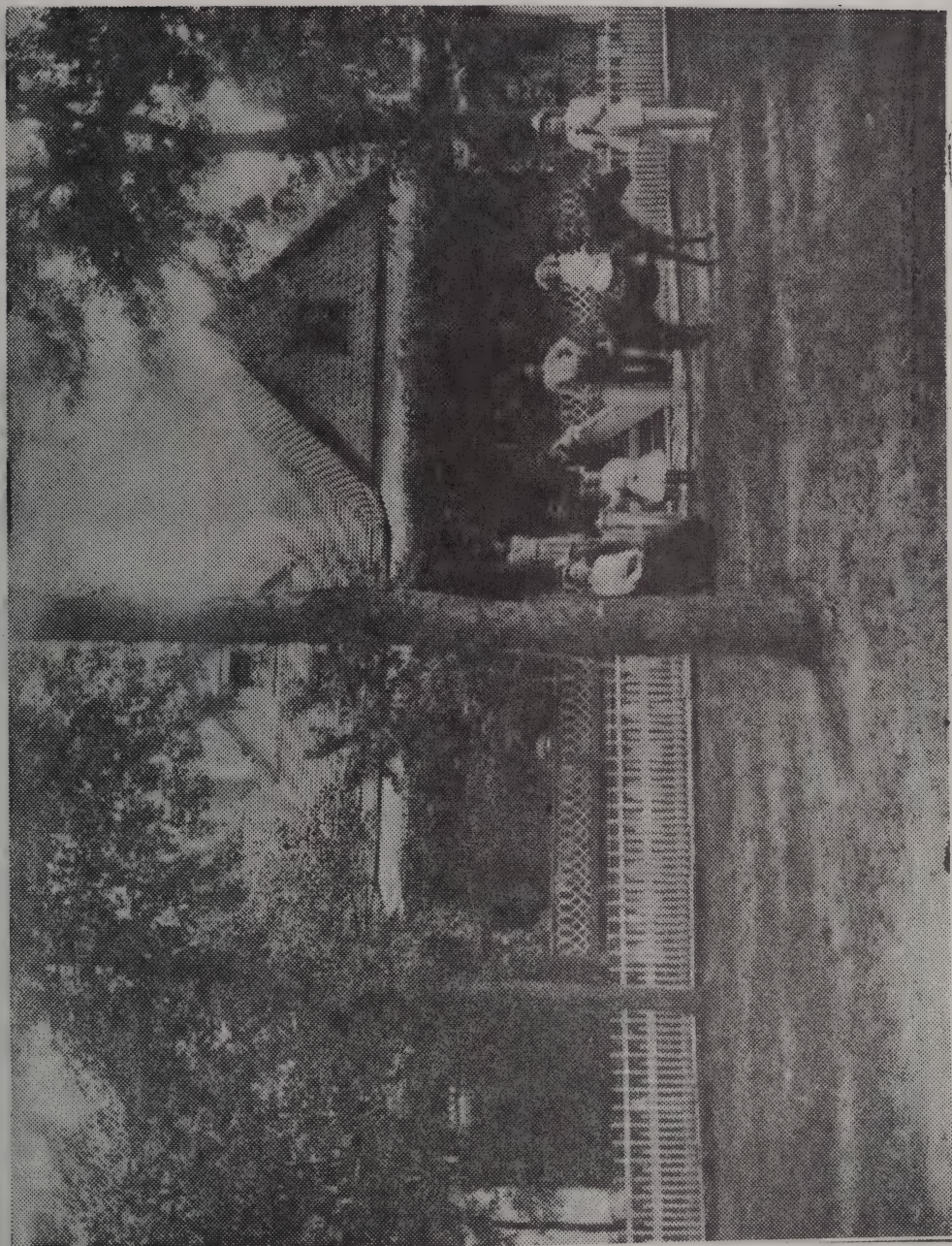
December 8, 1915—Sweet Springs special road district organized.

The Old Collins Ford



Early day travelers used to cross Blackwater river at the south end of Locust street at what was then called Collins Ford. A tragic story is attached to this place since old timers recall a woman was drowned there.

Senator Vest Cottage



Above is the summer resort home of the famed late Senator George Vest. The home, built over 80 years ago, burned a short time after the gusher was drilled. Principals in the picture have been identified as Brethod Harwood seated on the steps, Jim Mounts standing by the stair rail and Alec Vest, son of Senator Vest.

The Gusher



A great disappointment came forth in the form of water from a hole that was being drilled in search of oil around 1900. Since that time the gusher located south of Memorial park has gained prominence by providing water for a swimming pool, and many drink the water for medicinal purposes.

17 7059 9 4



